

Lone Star Diplomat

No. 18

March 17, 1982

79HS/HT, 80KG, 81A/B/P/AU/CE

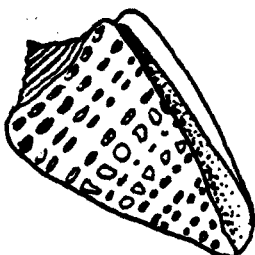
Gulf Coast Chronicled

GAME SUMMARY

1981P LONE STAR DIPLOMAT (Conner).

A: Robert F. Jewett (out F04). E: John Mayes.
F: Luis Porteny (res F04), Steve McLendon. G:
Gary Van Wie (dro S03), Jim Ridenour (out F03).
I: Don Ditter. R: Garry Hamlin (draw F05). T:
Jim Williams (draw F05).

	01	02	03	04	05
A	5	3	0	-	-
E	4	5	6	7	5
F	6	6	9	6	5
G	4	4	0	-	-
I	4	3	3	2	1
R	6	8	10	11	13
T	4	5	6	8	9



ENDGAME STATEMENTS

RUSSIA: Garry Hamlin

Williams and my letters crossed in the mail during the pregame negotiation phase. This was fortunate, since we both discovered, within three days of the receipt of the game start, that we were both thinking along exactly the same lines. The upshot was that Turkey and Russia were immediately allied before the game ever started. That commitment never wavered for an instant.

As a newcomer to the hobby, I had been wanting for better than a year to try out a R-T alliance, which at the time I had considered the most powerful dual combination possible. Williams was of the same opinion, and we both looked on this game as an experiment. Our agreement was that neither of us would back off from full support of the other, regardless of what the other powers did. Williams' thesis was that no one could harm us if we stayed true to that agreement. This game was to be a test of that thesis, and although we intended to do our best, we both looked forward to having a rough time of it, so that we could get a real feel for what the R-T combo could do.

Unfortunately, our alliance never ran up against significant enough opposition to demonstrate much of anything. Much to our mutual surprise, we overran the board, and no one seemed interested in calling our movement to a halt. In part, this was due to synergism from clever diplomacy, sound tactics, stubborn tenacity, several swindles, and an NMR by one of our opponents.

Having decided to ally, our first priority was to conceal it. My first step was to call most of my immediate neighbors and allow myself to be drawn into king exasperated comments about Williams. Among other things, I seemed to let slip that I found Jim reasonable, lacking in tact, inexplicably abusive--I even hinted that I suspected some sort of mental disturbance. I then passed on information was moving to the Black Sea in S'01 to take surprise. Williams, of course, knew exactly what was doing, and the move to the Black had

been suggested by him as a way of providing additional protection against an upcoming Lepanto, which Don Ditter (Italy) had informed me of and in which he requested my participation.

As for the Lepanto, had Ditter had his way, my choice would've been between an R-I alliance in which I aided the Lepanto, then aided Italy in partitioning Austria, or a four-way, R-T vs. I-A stalemate. Ditter's offer was tempting, simply because I valued the possibility to learn from a more experienced player, but an R-I alliance was simply not the game I had chosen to play.

My next step was to destroy any possibility of a Lepanto, even as Jim and I were preparing for one, if it couldn't be averted. I assumed that Austria would have to be the weak link here, since Ditter knew too well what could happen to allow us to get

Continued next page

Armadillo Disarmed



1979 HS

Armadillo

A 1910

FRENCH ACQUIESCE IN INEVITABLE
ITALO-FRANCO-GERMAN DRAW

- LSD congratulates Doug Tatsch (Germany), John Koehler (Italy), and John Daly (Russia) for their sharing the draw. They each receive five free issues of LSD or the equivalent. Ted Fuss also gets five issues for survival. One player has already sent in his endgame statement. It and any others will be printed in the next issue.

Texans Hail St. Pat

by Jack Maguire

In Texas this week, St. Patrick's Day celebrations will be held from Shamrock to San Antonio and with good reason. Irish settlers left a broad imprint on the history of the Lone Star State.

Hugo Oconor, an Irishman in the service of Spain, was the royal governor of Texas from 1767 to 1770. The first history of Texas was written by an Irish priest, Father Juan A. Morfi. He arrived here in 1777 and began recording the story of the province.

By 1785, there was an Irish settlement near Liberty. Later, when colonization began in earnest, four of the 11 empresarios who brought settlers were Irish. They were James Hewetson, James McGloin, John McMullen, and James Power.

In 1835, when the first Declaration of Independence from Mexico was signed at Goliad, 25 Irish signed it. There are four Irish surnames on the official Declaration signed March 2, 1836, at Washington-on-the-Brazos. Eleven sons of Old Erin died at the Alamo.

Half a hundred Texas towns and counties bear Irish names. Even San Antonio, although of Spanish ancestry, dyes its river green on St. Pat's Day.

Continued from previous page

away with it. Accordingly, I sent Jewett (Austria) a five-page letter outlining all the advantages of a R-A-T alliance, Austria and Turkey against Italy, and Russia against Germany and England. Much to my surprise (and considerable suspicion), he seemed to take the bait hook, line, and sinker. Jim and I had planned on carrying out the initial stages of the plan and not laying a hand on Austria until Ditter had been eliminated. But both of us were worried about whose side Jewett really was on and how long he could keep to his commitments. When in F'01 Jewett moved to Tyrolia a full year ahead of schedule, Williams and I reached a mutual decision: Austria could not be counted on and should be eliminated immediately. This led to the spectacular stab in S'02 in which Jewett took Venice from Ditter, and Williams took Serbia from Jewett, while I took Budapest. In spring of the next year, Ditter took back Venice, and Jewett was eliminated by F'03. So much for the Lepanto.

In the meantime, Germany had been tottering on the verge of collapse, for the most part because the guy in charge (Van Wie) was doing little in terms of negotiating and frequently forgot to send in his moves. To guard against this, I started sending postcards to him (Conner, the game's GM was informed of this) listing his options in terms of moves. The cards were stamped and put in such a format that all he needed to do was to circle an option for each unit, sign the card, date it, and leave it in the mailbox for pickup. And there was a little line on the cards marked NAME and DATE, to be sure Van Wie didn't forget. I didn't much care how Germany moved, just so long as he made an effort to protect himself against the continuing F-E attack. This strategy worked for a season or two, then Van Wie NMRed again, in spite of the card. By F'03, France was in control of all of Germany. However, by spring of the next year I had units in Den, Pru, Sil, Boh, and Tyo--and French resistance rapidly crumbled. The collapse was due in part to an English stab from behind, which I had known was coming and had done everything possible to encourage.

Once Austria was out of the way, I had been working on England. My line was that I wanted a three-way R-E-T draw. To bolster the appearance of that, I proposed a three-way draw in F'03, which I knew to be illegal, but if it occurred to him that I had intended it to be illegal (i.e., for appearance sake only), his moves never showed it. In apparent hope of participation in a draw, Mayes stabbed France from behind while I picked up the German centers, and the French player resigned. In F'05 I completed my work and took Norway from England, who was completely resigned to the loss.

Some things I learned in this game. The R-T alliance is very powerful. But it has a major drawback: Russia naturally grows more rapidly than Turkey, and this can create rivalry and suspicion. Without complete trust between both parties, I see no way this alliance can survive long, unless the western powers make some move to curtail Russia's growth. This may seem lucky for Russia, but in fact it is also a liability, as is any positional situation which could cause a trusted ally to betray you.

Many thanks to the players--especially Robert Jewett--for playing out their parts in a game where some of them were badly mauled. Even greater thanks are due to Mike Conner for his impeccable GMing and prompt publication of his zine. Finally, thanks are due to Jim Williams--not so much for the game as for the chance to get to know him. I suspect that our friendship will continue for some time

to come. Jim is the ablest tactician I have ever met in this game. Our success is largely due to his suggestions for the movement of the Russian units. My only regret is that I never got a chance to capture Portugal before the game end, but it seemed unworthy to delay the game for such a frivolous end.

TURKEY: Jim Williams

It all started on a cold February day, a little over a year ago: Gulf Coast began. I immediately sent a letter to the Russian player while unbeknownst to me he was sending one my way.

Our letters crossed in the mail, and we discovered to our mutual delight that we had the same ideas. We both wanted nothing more than a R-T alliance to the end. At this time, I began one of my most rewarding friendships to date in the hobby, as Garry Hamlin and I hit it off beautifully.

We began our friendship by feuding, or rather, trying to convince the Austrian, Robert Jewett, that we were. Our moves and our press did nothing to dispell these nasty rumors, and while all this was going on, Germany moved against France, perhaps prodded by the diplomatic whisperings of the fanatic Tsar.

1901 ended as both Garry and I were coddling the Austrian, and Germany looking down the double-barreled might of a 6-center France and a 4-center England, and not even bothering to send in his build. Tsk, tsk.

The next year sqw the culmination of our efforts to win the trust of Mr. Jewett. We had him thinking that he had us both in his back pocket, and he apparently felt safe enough to turn his back on us to hit Italy, the one thing we both told him we wanted.

Once Italy was gone, I imagine he thought he could pick an ally between Garry and me and attack the other one. As Austria vacated Budapest and Serbia, Garry and I slipped in unopposed. Tsk, tsk.

Also in 1902 Garry took Constantinople from me, as planned, in an effort to conceal our alliance and keep Europe from uniting against us. Our ultimate plan was to use the Russian fleet to spearhead the southern offensive against Italy, and eventually France.

1903 saw, among other things, Germany's second failure to send in builds and also a disbandment of an army due to not having a retreat order either. This meant that a 4-center Germany was down to 2 units in the spring of '03.

Garry had been trying to keep Van Wie in the game, so he could prepare himself for the Expected Anglo-French onslaught, and he was furious at the German NMRa. Fortunately, Austria was falling very quickly, losing his three remaining centers in 1903 and exiting the game along with Germany.

This gave my Russian ally enough strength in the north to convince England that he might be better off attacking France. Sure enough, England moved to the Mid-Atlantic in the fall. This move proved to be very important for Garry and me, because it caused Luis to move into Brest (to guard against F Eng-Bre), and it also gave this 9-center power (France) something else to do besides move east.

England's move on France was indicative of how well the game had been going for Garry and me. It seemed that anything we wanted to happen, happened! Austria attacked Italy for us, enabling us to bring him from six centers to none in two short years, and also paralyze the Italians, making it that much easier to attack him.

Continued on page 4

★ ROUNDUP of Texas & International News



P. Jeter

"First I'm going to read you your rights, then I'm going to read you a brief passage from 'The Merchant of Venice.'"

J-GAME SET FOR APRIL. I have received confirmations from Ellis, Fritz, Gallagher, Milewski, and Sutor. I did not hear from Winter regarding this gamestart, so his name drops from the list. Smith asked to be dropped to the bottom of the waiting list. Luedi and Lawniczak have the option for the two available spots. Send me \$10.00 by March 31 if you want to play. Next in line: Pierce, Drews, Jurkowski, Scheifler, Owen, Landeros, and Quinn. Just in case, the first two or three people on this list should drop me a note (don't send money) if they want to play in the J-game. I will notify all the players as soon as I have seven, so that negotiations can get underway promptly.

PLUGS. I finally got around to sending Eric Ozog (1526 N. Lawler Ave., Chicago, IL 60651) a subcheck, and my first issue was devoted to a discussion of the Polish Situation. In Poland, not Chicago. It began with a special section on American jokes told in Warsaw, and continued with articles, letters, hand-crafted illustrations, and games. Also, Eric gave some information for MidWestCon, which Chicagoans are hosting on an informal basis for area Dippers. I'd like to go myself. It's scheduled for May 15-16, and Eric has more details for those interested. His zine, by the way, is called DIPLOMACY BY MOONLIGHT, and he's just shifted to an open-page redux

format (in honor of LSD, he says). • A new zine LAURELINDORINAN will run the popular variant Middle Earth II. A sister publication to PARANOIACS' MONTHLY, "L" is published by Jack Fleming, who will probably send you a sample of both zines if you send him two 20¢ US postage stamps. His address: 5000 22nd NE #211, Seattle, WA 98105. PM is a definite bargain at \$2.50 for ten issues, and though small, it packs a lot of good stuff into its pages.

SEVEN PLAYERS IN SEARCH OF A GM. Do you want to get a little GMing practice? Are you planning to start up a Dipzine in the near future? Maybe you should contact Bill Quinn (1225 Ridgecrest, Orlando, FL 32806). He and six of his friends are looking for a GM. I told him to contact John Daly or Kathy Byrne, the Orphan Games Directors, since they may know of someone, but maybe there's someone out there just itching to take on this project.

KOMMAND CON 82. The Kommanders' Wargaming Club is holding a con July 24-25 at the Ohio Army National Guard Armory. Write to David Maye (PO Box 2235, Mansfield, OH 44905) for details.

STANDBY LIST. Auxier, Beyerlein, Finley, Fritz, Fuss, Hartman, Jewett, Jurkowski, Kador, King, Larzelere, Milewski, Nichols, Pierce, Pond, Ridenour, Sampson, Scheifler, Schleinkofer, Sergeant, Stephens, Tatsch, C. Williams, & Woodson. Any others?

NMR INSURANCE. Albrecht, Blanchard, Daly, Ellis, Fritz (?), Fuss, Gallagher, Giddings, Hall, King, Koehler, Kuhn, Luedi, Martin, Peacock, Pierce, Reed, Scheifler, Schleinkofer, Smith, Stafford, Stephens, Tatsch, & Woodson.

MAILING LIST. Welcome to Rob Landeros and Jim Finley, whose addresses can be found in the Post Office of Texas column. Also glad to have aboard Peter A. Ansoff, 5441-10 Sheffield Ct., Alexandria, VA 22311, and Billie Quinn, 108 W. Pauline, Conroe, TX 77301. And welcome back to Eric Ozog, address elsewhere in this column. I've been trying to cut back on the number of subbers to LSD, but these guys have pushed my circulation past 100 again. Oh well, that's a pretty comfortable level. I just don't want to get back up to the 130+ of last year. Again, I'm glad to have you folks with us.

CONTRIBUTIONS. LSD welcomes submissions of your original articles, cartoons, jokes, or whatever, and will "pay" you in sub credit for your trouble. Rod Walker's survey of imaginary placenames in this issue garners him four free issues. The second and third installments will boost his sub even more. Get in on this easy way to get more LSD. Original cartoons, black ink on white paper, are especially wanted. So far, only Mike Whitty, Jim Williams, and Bob Langley have submitted this type of material, and we want more!





Heart O' Texas Orphanage



1979 HT - Bluebonnet F 1911

FRENCH MILITARY GAINS FUEL RUMORS: POSSIBLE BREAKUP OF WEST ALLIANCE?

- The draw proposal failed.
- Summer 1911: France & Italy both attempt to retreat their dislodged units to Nap; instead, they are both annihilated.
- In last season's report France should have been shown as having A Pru, not Lvn. Also, the French order F TUN-Ion should have been underlined.

FRANCE (Dave Ohlendorf): F NWG h, F Eng-NTH, F ROM-Nap (F TRH s), F TUN-Ion, A TUS-Rom, A Pte-VEN, A Mar-SPA
 GERMANY (Dick Martin): A Boh-GAL (A VIE & A SIL s), A TYO s A Vie [ds], ret to Mun or dsb), A PRU-War, A Swe-LVN (A STP S, F BAL c), F Bar-NWY.
 ITALY (Tony Auxier): A APU-Nap.
 RUSSIA (Bob Peacock): A WAR s A Gal, A MOS & A UKR s, A Gal s [ds], ret to Rum or dsb), A BUD s A Gal.
 TURKEY (Cynthia Ellis): A Ven-TYO (A TRI s), A SER s A Tri, A Bul-GRE, A Gre-ALB, F ION-Trh, F AEG-Ion (F EAS s).

SUPPLY CENTER STATUS for winter adjustments:

F: Home, Iberia, England, Tun, ROM, VEN 11/build 2
 G: Home, Scandia, Bel, Hol, Vie, Stp 10/even
 I: Nap, Rom 1/1 ann; even
 R: Mos, War, Sev, Rum, Bud 5/even
 T: Home, Bul, Gre, Ser, Tri, Ven 7/remove 1

• PRESS--

KG-GAL: Oh, Gal, will you please be mine? I've wanted you for so long.
 KG-ALL: What am I doing? I really don't know, but it seems to be working, sort of.
 PALERMO-EUROPE: The Pope and the French President are having a high-level summit meeting now. The French were even polite enough to come to Rome instead of making the Pope travel to Paris. Such good friends these Frenchmen make!!!
 KING G-ITALY: Hmm...looks like I may have to write all the press from now on. Hope that's not the case, but it's not in my hands any more. What is the word, LSD?
 GM-KING GERBIL: Yes.
 BER-MOS: Don't tell me "Uncle" is the mystic curse word used to divert my orders from their rightful destination. Just don't use it again, OK?
 KG-RUSSIA: You've defended your homeland admirably. I wouldn't be too surprised to see you keep me out of War, Mos, and Gal this year. I hope not, though!
 KG-FRANCE: Onward to the next Crusades!

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If England and France would have held together, it would have been tough going for Garry and me. Things were going so well, however, that it couldn't happen that way.

After 1904 France was reduced to six centers while England grew to seven. This gave Garry and me certain victory. We stood at a combined strength of 19 centers, with no one in position to stop us from getting more.

1905 was just more of the same. Garry grabbed a few more centers in the north while I did the same in the south. England lost two, convincing him perhaps that Russia had no intention of honoring any past agreements. The standby France regained Brest, but lost Kiel to Russia, leaving him at six, and unable to stop the Russian blitz. The conceded draw was the only way out, and I'm glad that Steve, John, and Don went along with it.

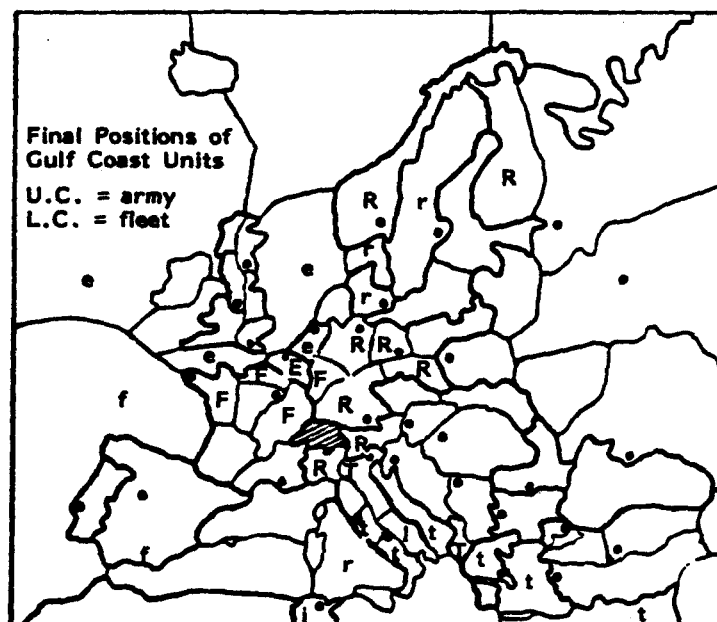
In closing, I would like to apologize to the western powers for my lack of communication during the game, especially early on. When the game began, I was pressed for time by other games, and later on, I felt that starting communication would serve no purpose.

I hope that Mr. Jewett doesn't get too discouraged by his showing here. Part of getting Diplomatic experience involves taking your lumps. I wish I could have worked with England at some time. Perhaps another game. He seems to be a pretty affable gent. We were just too far away.

Don Ditter deserves praise for his stand as Italy. He recognized the Russian threat almost immediately, but unfortunately for him, he couldn't or wouldn't convince the rest of Europe that we must be stopped. When Austria stabbed him, I almost felt sorry for him, but...war is hell. Some other time, Don.

Last but not least: Hail to the all-powerful Tsar! His early enthusiasm truly made this game enjoyable for me. His devious mind was always trying to think up novel ways to stab somebody. His diplomatic skills are apparent when you see how he kept England, Germany, and France in check without even having to attack them.

In Garry I have made about as good of a friend as you can make in this hobby. I thank Mike for giving me the chance to meet Garry and for a well-run game. Mike you're on my list of people I have to meet one of these days (years?).





1980 KG

Derrick

F 1906

**WEST DISPLAYS DISARRAY, DECLINE
AS A-H UPS MILITARY SPENDING 25%**

- **Summer 1906:** Germany retreats dsl F Nth-Nwy.

ENGLAND (Jack Smith): F Nat-MID, F Edi-NWG,
F SWE-Den, A Hol-Bel [nsu], A BEL u, h,
F NTH s A Bel-Hol [nso].

FRANCE (Bobby Stephens?): NMR! F ENG, A PAR,
A GAS, F WES h; F SPA(sc) h [dsl, ret to
Por or dsb].

GERMANY (Al Giddings): F NWY-Nth, F DEN-Nth,
A Mun-BOH, A BUR-Mun (A RUH s),
A Hol-KIE.

ITALY (Mark Luedi): A Rom-VEN, A Nap-APU,
F Ion-TUN (F TRH s), F Aeg-ION, A SMY-Con,
F Lyo-SPA(sc) (A MAR s).

AUSTRIA (Ned Nichols): A Arm-ANK (F BLA s),
A Ukr-MOS, A Bud-GAL, A TYO s German
A Mun [otm], A BUL-Con, A GRE h (A SER s).

RUSSIA (David Pierce): A SIL-Mun (A BER s).

SUPPLY CENTER STATUS for winter adjustments:

E: Edi, Lon, Nwy, Stp, SWE, Bel	5/even
F: Bre, Par, Spa, Por, Lpl	4/remove 1
G: Mun, Kie, Ber, Hol, Den, Swe, NWY	5/remove 1
I: Home, Tun, Mar, SPA, Smy, Con, Ank,	8/even
A: Home, Ser, Rum, Bul, Gre, Sev, ANK, MOS	10/build 2
R: Mos, War, BER	2/even

- **COA:** Ned Nichols, 11 Dunton St.,
Watertown, MA zip?

• PRESS--

KAISER-TSAR: Is it true you're a transvestite, or just some sort of fruit? I've been hearing some strange things from your neighbors. Oh, what the hell!! I can't attack you physically so I've resorted to slander and defamation of character.

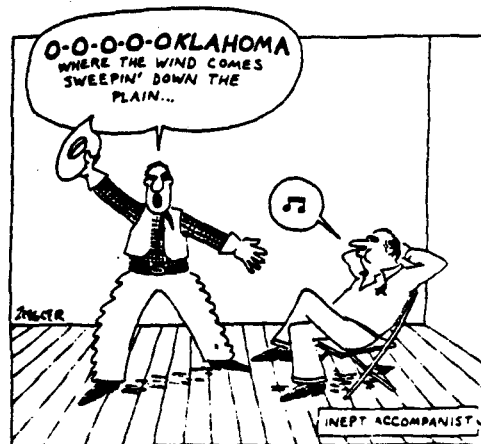
MOS-MUN: It appears the lesson I learned was profitable. Nevertheless, I keep your advice in mind.

GERMANY-FRANCE & ENGLAND: Now what was this about an F-E-G? Better hurry and make up your minds (for my sake, anyway). Or did you just have aspirations for my SCs? Russia did!

KAISER-FRENCHIE: I'll be coming to "D" the weekend of the 20th. Care to mee for a few beakers of firewater?

GERMANY-WORLD: A more freewheeling game I have never before enjoyed postally. Thanks to all concerned. Too bad the communication has withered so much.

LSB-BOBBY: Please send me your phone number. The one I called was answered by someone that sounded a generation older than Jean Marie.

1981 A **Enchanted Rock** S 1906

**SEE EVERYONE WATCH FRED;
SEE HIM MOVE THE RED BLOCKS!**

- **The G-I-R draw proposal failed.**
- **Two players have requested that summer retreats and fall moves be separated. Not surprising, with four (count 'em) Austrian retreats due.**
- **Summer 1906:** Austria retreats the following dislodged units: A Vie-BOH, A Bud-SER, A Arm-SMY, F Gre-AEG.

FRANCE (William Owen): Has A BEL, A BRE, F ENG, A MAR, F LYO, A TUN, & F WES (7).

GERMANY (Jeff Noto): Has A VIE, A TRI, A HOL, A BUR, A RUH, & A MUN (6).

ITALY (Guy Hall): F TRH, F ROM, F VEN, A GRE, & F ION (5).

AUSTRIA (Fred Winter): A BOH, A SER, A SMY, F AEG, A ANK, & F CON (6).

RUSSIA (Dan Stafford): F BUL, A ARM, F BLA, A BUD, A RUM, A GAL, F NWY, A LON, F NTH, F WAL (10).

• PRESS--

PARIS-ANKARA: Fred! My God, what happened! Why does Italy hate you so much that he virtually guarantees a Russian win merely for the satisfaction of utterly destroying you as a power? I wonder if he'll prefer Russia as a neighbor.

NAPLES: Syphilis causes Random Moves.

PARIS-BERLIN: I hang my head in shame regarding the scarcity of letters.

NEW ALAMO: The capital buzzed with rumors that the Austrian government plans to change its name to the Austro-Turko-Hungarian Islamic Empire and move the capital and seat of government to Constantinople.

EXERCISE



Places That Don't Exist

Early Diplomacy Zines: The Names and Their Sources

Part 1 of a 3-part Series by Rod Walker

The first full-fledged Diplomacy zine* was named GRAUSTARK, and it is still being published. Whence the funny name?

In choosing a name for his zine, John Boardman decided to pick the name of a fictional country which would have existed at about the time of the game. *Graustark* is the title, and the locale, of a novel published by George Barr McCutcheon in 1901--the very year in which the game begins. It is a novel of intrigue, diplomacy, and warfare. Thus its name was a most fitting one for the first real journal of the game of Diplomacy.

(I should add, however, that the first postal Diplomacy game was organized by Conrad von Metzke the year before GRAUSTARK first appeared. By convention, the publication is called "MONGO", a word that sometimes appeared on the masthead, but it was really nothing more than a carbon copy letter**. The game was never finished, and the whole experiment in postal Diplomacy was abandoned early in 1963.)

The next game to be organized began to appear in a zine called RURITANIA. This was the locale of the 1894 novel, *The Prisoner of Zenda*, by Anthony Hope (Hopkins).

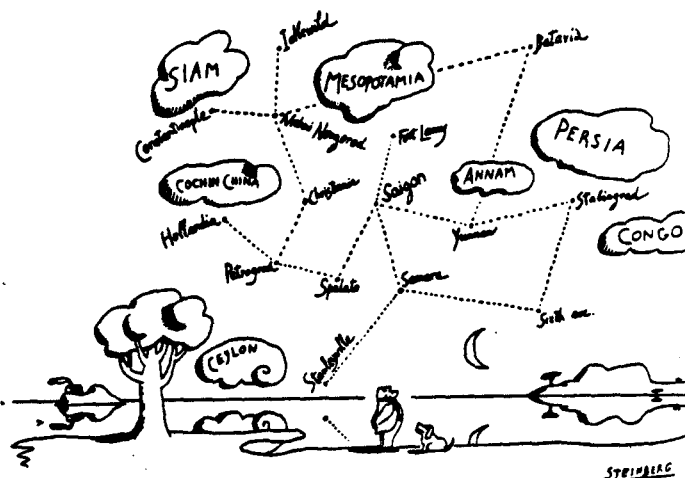
John Boardman began in 1964 to publish a second zine for his third postal game, FREDONIA (later revived as FREEDONIA). This was the locale of the Marx Brothers's movie "Duck Soup". (Freedonia's rival, Sylvania, has never had a Dipzine named after it that I am aware of.)

From that point, it was for a while considered a hobby tradition that Diplomacy zines should be named after fictional places. A few early names included BROBDINAG (from *Gulliver's Travels*), TRANTOR (from the "Foundation" trilogy), WILD 'N WOOLY (from another sf work, although I don't now recall the name), COSTAGUANA (from Joseph Conrad's *Nostromo*) and EREHWON (from Samuel Butler's *Erehwon*). Many other names of fictional countries have been used, as well as some real ones, such as Lusitania.

The primary purpose of this article, however, is to examine the hobby tradition in its earliest form: using names of fictional countries which would have existed at about the time of the game. The two most obvious, but not the only, names have been used. There are (as it happens) many others.

In the years before the First World War, there was a considerable fad for romances of thrones, intrigues, and intricate international politics. These romances are sometimes called "Graustarkan romances", although in fact the novel *Graustark* was written seven years after the original work in the genre, *Prisoner of Zenda*. The fad, then lasted from the time the latter was published, 1894, until the Old Order was done to death by the World War--although a last Graustark novel, *East of the Setting Sun*, appeared in 1924. It was the fifth of the series.

Silent movies caught the fever, too. The most famous was "Prisoner of Zenda", which starred Ronald Coleman. I'm told that *Truxton King*, the third Graustark novel, was also made into a movie. There was also a silent flick, "Long Live the King", created as a vehicle for the child star Jackie Coogan, and also a novel of the same name by Mary Roberts Rinehart. It combined all the more ghastly features



of "Prisoner" and "Truxton". It is set in a fictional principality named "Livonia" (not the same place that we have on the board, and in its neighbor "Karnia").

The list goes on. Just to look at the Graustark series for a moment: the second and fourth novels were *Beverly of Graustark* and *The Prince of Graustark*, respectively. Two other countries appear in many of the five books, Dawsbergen and Axphasia, Graustark's neighbors to the south and north. There were also two other Ruritania novels, *Rupert of Hentzau* and *The Heart of Princess Osra*.

Anthony Hope wrote at least two other novels of this same type. He wrote *Sophy of Kravonia* (which may have been made into a movie) and *Phroso*, the latter set on the Aegean isle of Neopalia.

Other novels of the period include Percy Brebner's *Princess Maritza* (set in Wallaria) and C.N. and A.M. Williamson's *The Princess of Virginia* (set in the Grand Duchy of Baumenburg-Drippe and the Empire of Rhaetia and places like that).

One very peculiar addition to the genre is the unfinished novel by "Ouida" (Louise de la Ramee), *A Princess of Europe*. This is set in the Kingdom of Helianthus, which might be Greece. In fact, the book teems with names of nations which might be euphemisms for European states: Gallia, the Guthonic Empire, Barusia, the Empire of the Septentiones, Candor, and so on...and yet.... It's hard to say until I've read the book in detail.

Even Edgar Rice Burroughs caught the infection, late in its development. In 1913 and 1914 he wrote two novelettes set in the country of Lutha, "The Mad King" and "Barney Custer of Beatrice". These generally now appear as Parts I and II of a novel, *The Mad King*, which first appeared in 1926 (the fictional country fad was over by then, but the Burroughs fad was in full swing). There was a short-lived Dipzine named LUTHA, by the way.

The books mentioned above probably do not exhaust the total number of this type written. My book-searcher found the Williamsons' novel only a week before this article was written, and it had been unknown to me previously. The "Ouida" and Rinehart novels were found by chance, just reading the shelves at a used book store. So it's entirely likely that some more of these deliciously tedious old romances will turn up.

Continued on next page

81 B

Friendship

F 1906



GERMAN GAIN SECURES SCANDINAVIA;
A-H CAPTURES CANALS OF VENICE

ENGLAND (Bryan Jurkowski): F NTH-Eng,
F Nwg-NAT, F Nwy h [ds], ret to Bar, Nwg,
Ska, or dsb].
GERMANY (George Cunningham): A Swe-NWY (A STP
& A FIN s), F Bot-SWE, F DEN-Nth,
F Kis-HOL, F BEL-Eng, A PIC-Bel, A Bur-MUN,
A UKR-Sev, A WAR-Ukr, A SIL-War.
ITALY (Paul Goodrich): A Ven-ROM (F TRH s),
F ADR-Ven (A PIE s), F TUN-Ion, F WES-Tun.
AUSTRIA (Art Schleinkofer): A Tri-VEN (A TYO s),
F GRE s Turkish F Aeg-Ion, A Ser-TRI,
A GAL-Rum, A Vie-BOH.
TURKEY (Mike Drews): A ARM-Sev, A BUL-Rum,
F ION-Adr, F AEG-Ion (F NAP s), A APU s
Austrian A Tri-Ven.

SUPPLY CENTER STATUS for winter adjustments:

E: Home, Nwy 3/1 ann, even
G: Home, Den, Swe, NWY, War,
Mos, Stp, Hol, Bel, Par, Bre 13/build 1
I: Rom, Ven, Tun, Mar, Por, Spa 5/remove 1
A: Home, Ser, Gre, Rum, VEN 7/build 1
T: Home, Bul, Sev, Nap 6/even

• PRESS--

GERMANY-EX-TSAR SCHEIFLER: I offered you survival, but you preferred a quick death. *C'est la guerre!*

ENGLAND-PAST RUSSIAN: Boy, I sure do miss you. Nobody is writing me nasty press anymore.

ENGLAND-GERMANY: George, don't get distressed. But I would rather have the knife. I would rather go down fighting you than to just vasselate.

LSD-ENGLAND: Vacillate? or Vassalate?

GERMANY-ENGLAND: Let it be known that the Kaiser prayed for the English nation. A war, if it breaks out between us, is not our wish. If Her Majesty is willing to be reasonable, a peace can be arranged. P.S. Can you please clean up the beaches of Britain? Many German soldiers and sailors are reporting extreme nausea from the stench of cow dung.

ENGLAND-AUSTRIA & TURKEY: HELP!!!

ENGLAND-EUROPE: The King of England turned down an offer of puppetship to the German Kaiser today. "We would rather die fighting than to listen to the German lies anymore." The King warns all other European capitals to beware of the German threat before it's too late.

ENGLAND-GERMANY: Mene, Mene, Tekel, Upharsin.

DEADLINE

for all LSD games:
April 16, 1982

Continued from previous page

Some of the countries they speak of stay with us. GRAUSTARK, as I have mentioned, is still being published (and a second RURITANIA folded not too long ago). The events related in *The Prisoner of Zenda* at one point intrude upon Dr. John Watson's posthumous memoir, *The Seven-Percent Solution*. A map of Europe in Avram Davidson's collection, *The Enquiries of Doctor Eszterhazy*, shows both a Ruritania and a Graustark, although manifestly in the wrong locations and one of them (Graustark) with the wrong capital ("Grauheim", not Edelweiss). But that is the world of the Triune Empire of Skythia-Pannonia-Transbalkania and naturally we would expect to find some differences. The two countries don't really enter into the narrative, however. And finally, of all these books, *The Prisoner of Zenda* has appeared in paperback reprints.

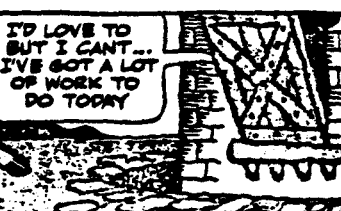
I am hoping that the appearance of this article might stimulate some new publishers to go back to the original hobby tradition and name their zines for some of the quaint lands which, at the time our game takes place, graced the literary (but not the physical) map of Europe. In a companion article I plan to examine places that also qualify as existing-around 1901, but appeared in literary (and other) works from other periods. I will there also continue to observe the qualifications that the countries discussed all lie within the area of the playing board.

Side Note: I have just acquired a copy of Pierre Louÿs' *The Adventures of King Pausole*. This delightful work appeared in 1901 in Paris. It is not an old-fashioned romance such as the other books I've discussed. But it otherwise fits our conditions. It is set in the Kingdom of Tryphème, which runs out of the southeastern end of the Pyrenees into the Mediterranean.

"Walker's manuscript uses the spelling "zine", with the apostrophe, but we have changed it to agree with the usage in LSD.

**All "issues" of MONGO are reprinted in RUDDIGORE #2, which is available from Walker, 1273 Crest Dr., Encinitas, CA 92024, for \$1.00.

HAGAR
the
horrible
by
DIK
BRUENE





81AU

Horned Toad

F 1904

TSAR ABANDONS CAPITAL TO AID TURK;
ANGLO-GERMAN ALLIES RAPE FRANCE

• Summer 1904: Austria retreats dsl A Rum-Bud:

ENGLAND (Allen King): F NWY-Stp(nc), F NTH h,
F Mid-BRE (F ENG s), A POR-Spa, F Iri-MID.FRANCE (James Woodson): A Bre s A Par [dsl, ret
to Pic or dsb], A Par s A Bre [dsl, ret to Pic
or dsb], F SPA(sc) s A Mar, A MAR & F WES s
F Spa(sc).GERMANY (Bill Quinn): A Lvn-MOS (A WAR s),
F BOT-Stp(sc), F Kie-BAL, A Bel-RUH,
A Bur-PAR (A GAS s).

ITALY (John Koehler): A Tyo-BOH, F ROM h.

AUSTRIA (Ted Kuhn): A Ven-TYO (A VIE s),
F Alb-TRI, A Ser-Rum [dsl, ret to Alb or dsb],
(A BUD & A GAL s).RUSSIA (Rich Reed): A UKR & F SEV s Turkish
A Rum.TURKEY (Glenn Sherrill): A Gre-SER (A BUL &
A RUM s); F Aeg-GRE (F ION s).

SUPPLY CENTER STATUS for winter adjustments:

E: Home, Nwy, Bel, Stp, BRE,

POR

8/build 2

F: Par, Bre, Mar, Spa, Por

2/remove 3

G: Home, Den, Swe, Hol, War,

MOS, PAR

9/build 2

I: Nap, Rom, Tun

3/1 ann, build 1

A: Home, Ven, Ser, Rum

5/remove 1

R: Sev, Mos

1/remove 1

T: Home, Bul, Gre, SER, RUM

7/build 2

- Subs have expired for both Rich Reed and Glenn Sherrill. If they have not resubbed by the next deadline, that will constitute a technical NMR, and standbys will be called.

• PRESS--

LIECHTENSTEIN: Local reporters had a field day as General Franco Verdi held a press conference. When asked about his nation's relationship with France, the General stated that he does not decide on that policy, but he hopes that the French will be friendly. He expressed general distrust and hatred for the Austro-Hungarians and contempt for their German allies. The greatest amount of interest from the press was (of course) the future plans of that Italian Army Group. General Verdi, however, would offer no clues due to security precautions. Another look at world affairs and the wars now in progress came on the popular Liechtensteinian television program "One Hour". Reporter Wolfgang Karlschtunt interviewed the Crown Prince and during the talk asked him to tell his loyal subjects his thoughts on the world today. Prince Martin said that due to the neutrality of his country he could not comment at length, but he would put his money on "those savages", the Turks.

VIE-BER: Our "alliance" seems to have resulted in some tangible benefits to you. Do you suppose you could lend a hand against these unruly Turks?

BERLIN: The Kaiser has just discovered that some German units have been attacking English positions while others have been cooperating. A unifor policy must be set.

LON-BER: Release Belgium and the halls of the Tsars will be yours.

FRONT LINE TROOPS REPORT: After being presented with irrefutable evidence the German High Command admitted that it didn't know Eastern from Western Fronts, had made up names for its units. Furthermore, none of the generals knew exactly where the German units are, or what they are doing. One general admitted that he always does what the British Naval Attache tells him to do. The Kaiser has hired detectives to track down the missing units and informs their commanders to call home once in a while.

VIE-LON: Germany has been my only steadfast ally. I will not turn on him now.

LONDON-BUDA/PEST: I'd write more often, but it takes twice the time when dealing with a split personality. You must have a friend somewhere, Buda, or is it Pest?

BORDEAUX: As the German occupation troops arrived the French populace was rounded up and told the laws of the new occupation government. Within weeks various underground groups began to operate in the area. The situation is now very near that in the Alsace-Lorraine.

LON-PAR: With regrets, but also with finality.

VIE-PAR: You should make the deal. It's only a game.

LSD-VIE: Only? Only?!!

PAR-ICELAND: Well said. If England continues to stick by his German "ally" he is bound to destruction.

LON-ICELAND: If you can count, then I'm certain you will understand that your tuna-boat flotilla is no match for H.M.'s floating gun platforms. However, realizing that you are but the duped shadow of a major power, H.M. sends his regards and a case of 1843 Burgundy, courtesy of the puppet-master himself. Long life....

PARIS-BNC (Beleaguered Nations Cooperative): Count me in as a member of your BNC. The strong triple alliance must be stopped at all costs.

VIE-RUSSIAN-IN-EXILE: Too bad you didn't help me against the Turks. You'd still be playing now.

VIE-ROM: If you get out of Austria, you could have Venice back. Better late than never?

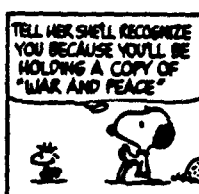
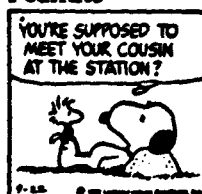
PAR-SARDINIA: Hang On!

VIE-CON: You're a yellow swine and I never give an inch of Austrian soil.

LON-CON: Is there really a post office in Moab?

IRISH FREE STATE: Dublin reports strong tremors regarding a fatal split in Anglo-German relationships. British Government reportedly shocked at depth of alleged treachery. Iceland heard to snort, "We told you so, effete snob!" King Edward's shocked reply was reported to be a meek, "My, but these lads do play rough polo," as the sun slowly set.

Peanuts





1981 CE Independence F 1904

FRANCE CEDES BELGIUM TO GERMANY
AS OTHER GREAT POWERS ON HOLD

• Summer 1904: Italy retreats dsl F Ion-Tun.

ENGLAND (Joe Gallagher): F LPL h.

FRANCE (Jim Meinel): F Nat-NWG, F Bre-ENG,

F Spa(sc)-WES, A Mar-SPA, A PIC-Par.

GERMANY (Don Scheifler): A Mun-BUR (A RUH &
A BEL s), F Nth-LON, A YOR-Lpl, A SIL h,
F Den-NTH.ITALY (Doug Tatsch): A GAS-Par, F Lyo-TRH
(F TUN s), F Apu-NAP, A PIE takes the day
off: enjoys the sun, plays a little soccer, has
a nice picnic, and tunes in on the Pope's Mass
on Radio Free Vatican (h).AUSTRIA (Len Blasol): F ADR h, A Tri-SER,
A Vie-BUD, A GAL s Russian A Mos-Ukr [nso].RUSSIA (Jeff Albrecht): A MOS h (A STP & A WAR s),
A BOH h, F NWY h.TURKEY (Mike Blanchard): A RUM & A UKR s
Austrian A Gal, A SEV s A Ukr, F Ion-APU,
F Aeg-ION (F GRE s), F Con-AEG.

SUPPLY CENTER STATUS for winter adjustments:

E: Lpl	1/even
F: Bre, Mar, Por, Spa, Bel	4/remove 1
G: Home, Hol, BEL, Lon, Edi, Den	8/build 1
I: Home, Tun, Par	5/even
A: Home, Ser	4/even
R: Stp, Mos, War, Swe, Nwy	5/even
T: Home, Bul, Rum, Gre, Sev	7/even

• PRESS--

ANK-ROM: I know who you-know-who is, but I don't know why you-know-who is me. We could have worked well together, if you hadn't insisted upon the stabs by me. All I can say now is that I hope I get you before you get me. May the Pope get "Catholic's knee"!

ROME: The Pope led a Mass of Salvation today in St. Peter's Square as the nation braced itself for a long struggle with the infidel. His Holiness called on our Christian brethren in A-H & Russia to join with the Italian people in a new Crusade to drive back the godless Turks. The plucky Pontiff noted, "The forces of darkness are at our doorstep, but with a united front, perseverance, and faith in the Lord, we can prevail. Of course, a strong and effective allied offensive headed east wouldn't hurt either."

ANK-WORLD: The Turkish government would like to extend a proposal to the world: a bounty for every scurvy Italian pirate's head.

TUN: The battered but still feisty Med fleet steamed into harbor today after its enforced retreat from the Ionian. Fleet commander Admiral Scumbaggi, severely criticized for his reliance on "phlegm-throwers" in the recent battle with the infidel, was noted by observers to be "hanging from the highest yardarm" of the flagship. The announcement of his successor is expected from Rome shortly.

VIE-ROM/MOS: "We few, we happy few, we band of brothers...."

MUN-CON: However did you manage to make enemies out of all your neighbors?

MUN-TRIPLE: Y'all have the Kaiser's blessings.

MUN-FRANCE: The time has come to smash some grapes.

FRANCE: The sudden rupture of Franco-German relations has set France afire with anti-German hysterics. The French President stated publicly that the "huns" will be "sent yapping back to their kennels". The French Defense Minister called it a "grotesque betrayal" and doubted that the eastern alliance could be stopped in the face of the new developments.

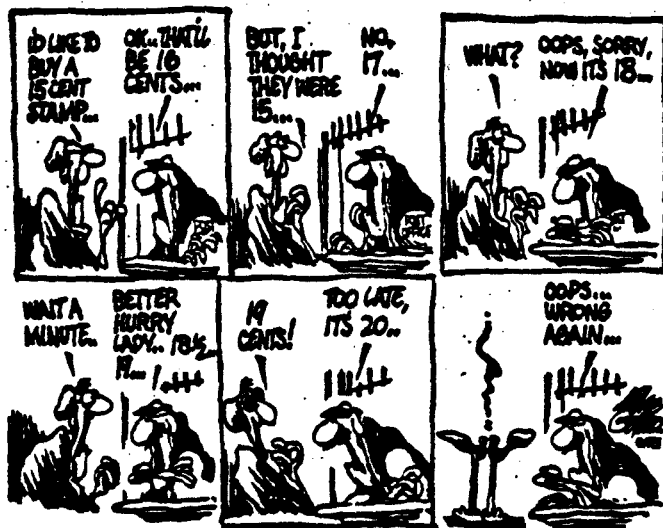
The collapse of peace in the west apparently was motivated by a desire of the Kaiser not to allow French growth to match German expansion. This can only be read by the French government as an attempt by Germany for European-wide domination, which will be resisted all at costs by the brave French people. BURGUNDY: The Kaiser's crack infantry encountered virtually no resistance as they marched into the heart of France. Is the mighty French Army to be vanquished so easily?

LON-EXILED KING: Come on out and play. I won't hurt you.

FINLAND-ENGLAND: Having been overrun by Russian hordes, we can appreciate the treachery that has befallen you at the hands of the German. However, it appears the German is involved elsewhere for the time being. Therefore, may you live a long, happy, albeit lonely life until your troops return from the New Crusades. Long Live the King.

NAPLES: The home fleet arrived today in preparation for defense of the homeland and was electrified by news that Marshall (now Admiral) Romaforevi has been recalled from Gaul by the Vatican to lead the naval counterattack against Turkey. Reports indicate he is even now steaming south with his F Lyo.

DEN-NWY: If you're still in port, great. If not, may the Kraken swallow you whole and spit your bones back to Moscow.



Post Office of Texas

Mike,

Thanks much for the sample copy of LONE STAR DIPLOMAT. You put out a nice product, just about the nicest-looking of all the samples I've sent for.

As a longtime New Mexican (the Marine Corps has me working here, but Albuquerque is home), I'm committing a minor felony by being civil to a Texan, but I'd also like to thank you for such a friendly, pleasant letter. You guys aren't so bad, I guess. Actually, since I've been in the service and run into people from all over, I find that Texans are nicer folks than most. When I get home I'm going to write the governor and suggest that Texans be made honorary New Mexicans.

A paragraph to tell you who I am, aside from a smartass New Mexican: 23, with wife Robyn and year-old boy Chris; in the Marines since '76, presently as a computer operator, formerly as an infantryman

Continued on next page

and as a D.I. I read a lot, play games, go running sometimes, go shooting once in a while, and collect bad jokes. (A poor monastery began selling fish and chips to raise funds. One night a customer knocked on the gate and asked the monk who answered, "Are you the fish friar?" Came the reply: "No, I'm the chip monk.")

See you around,
Jim Finley
3020 Oceanside Blvd.#124
Oceanside, CA 92054

Most Texans would appreciate your proposal for honorary citizenship. The parts of NM I've seen are quite attractive, and I would be proud to claim allegiance. However, we feel a close bond with you folks, since the Texas Republic border followed the course of the Rio Grande through what is now NM, and including part of Colorado and Wyoming, Oklahoma, Nebraska, and maybe even part of Alaska, who knows? Thanks for your letters.

Dear Mike,

Put me on the list for the K-game please. I read with interest the Michalski letter. I myself am currently undergoing marital separation, hence the change of address given below (after your scrambling to obtain the old one). Has someone ever written on the effects of Diplomacy on the estate of matrimony?

Yours, Rob Landero
10029 Windward Dr. NW
Olympia, WA 98501

I don't know, but I'm sure Mark Berch would know. I have received mail from quite a few gamers who have felt the threatening influence on their personal relationships. Incidentally, Mark was the only person who sent me your correct (old) address. Thanks, Mark! It's nice to know someone cares.

Dear Mike,

Doug Beyerlein's heart-shaped love story was very clever and had a very honest and touching ring to it, but I cannot fathom how a family that stabs together can stay together. May their tribe grow strong.

Allen King
10020 Woodland Village
Austin, TX 78750

Dear Mike,

Do you still have Caruso? I'm now the proud possessor (or maybe that's possession) of a cat myself. I've only had her three days but she's already being a terrible pest: trying to sit on my lap while I'm typing these important letters. Unlike my last cat, who would almost never sit on a lap, this one doesn't want to do anything else. Last night she got interested in the typewriter and stuck her paw in the keys and got stung, so she doesn't hand around quite so much anymore. Serves her right!

Best wishes,
Bob Olsen
6818 Winterberry Cir.
Wichita, KS 67226

Caruso is sitting on my lap as I type this! He and his sister Caspia both live with me, and are even more affectionate (perhaps it's insecurity) after my recent move. Now that the weather's warming up to the 70s and 80s, they are both shedding, so I'm trying to discourage the lap action.

Dear Mike,

I was very surprised to read John Mayes' letter in LSD#17. I suspect it was a forgery. Why else would the writer ask me how to stab someone with a steamroller? I don't know, but then I never said anyone could be stabbed by a steamroller. Also, you (RMC) said yourself in your account of the Sunday game that you "knifed him" (Tatsch), and I thought a knifing was a stabbing. Because of these obvious errors I believe you accepted a forged letter signed "John Mayes", and you owe John an apology.

Steve (Langley), I do know where you got the quote, I only doubt someone of Asimov's writing ability could write such a poetic and confused statement. Confused because if violence is the incompetent's last resort, what is the first? I would be proud of anyone who used violence only as a last resort. Most people do not.

Guy Hall
1103B Lorrain
Austin, TX 78703



★Lone Star Diplomat the national Diplomacy
1500-B Ashwood Road journal of Texas, is
Austin, TX 78722 a monthly publication
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wanted.

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first appeared commercially in 1959 in essentially
its present form. The Avalon Hill Game Company
now owns the copyright and publishes the game.

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